

# Ray Windfarm Fund Extraordinary CIC Meeting

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

By Teams

Time 7.00pm

## 1. In attendance

**Action**

Sarah Crone (SC) Chair; Lesley Gosling (LG); David Burn (DB), Sarah Lunn (SL); Martin Chilvers (MC); Chris Robson (CR); Peter Ramsden (PR); Phil Lawless (PL); Deb Walton (DW); Joanne Willis (JW) CDO (Minutes)

**Apologies** Alison Thomson (AT); Katie Wood (KW); Martin Dickson-Green (MDG)

**Non-Attendance** Paul Cowie (PC)

## 2. Declarations of interest

PL Ref 400 Kirkwhelpington Memorial Hall, though Directors agreed not necessary to declare as not on committee and will not benefit.

## 3. Minutes of the last meeting 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record.

## 4. Notes of ARC 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Accepted as a true record.

## 5. Applications

- **400 Kirkwhelpington Memorial Hall £10,000**

The application is for the first phase of a three-phase project to extend the hall to add accessible storage facilities that do not pose a Health & Safety risk to users of the hall. The storage currently used is completely inadequate for the needs of the hall and its users. The committee have applied for additional funding and JW has sent a comprehensive list of alternative funders that can be approached, they are working closely with CAN who are assisting with the project.

**Scoring - Impact 35 Organisation 15 Engagement & Inclusion 18 Planning & Delivery 18 Total=89**

**Unanimous decision to award the full amount, conditional on raising the remaining funds required, or proof that the project can commence with a grant. Grant can only be used for the extension project.**

- **411 North Tyne & Redesdale Community Partnership - Chatty Café £1,242.25**

The application to cover running costs of the Chatty Café in Bellingham for the coming year. The café meets every week at Fountain Cottage Café and is open to everyone, with an emphasis on being dementia friendly and holding special sessions for this and bereavement support. It has been taken under the wing of NTRCP who have a proper governance structure. Directors appreciate the work the volunteers have undertaken with the Chatty Café.

**Scoring - Impact 38 Organisation 15 Engagement & Inclusion 18 Planning & Delivery 15 Total=86**

**Unanimous decision to award the full amount.**

- **416 Wark Town Hall £5,000**

The grant requested is towards the cost of roof repairs, bricking up an old access door, and replacing a kitchen with plumbing and electrical work and match funding is secured along with money provided from the applicant. The Town Hall is part of the resilience network of community facilities that can open in power outages or storms and is a key facility in the area. It services parts of Birtley, Chollerton and Bellingham parishes although it is situated just

outside the area of benefit.

**Scoring - Impact 38 Organisation 18 Engagement & Inclusion 10 Planning & Delivery 18 Total=84**

**Unanimous decision to award the full amount.**

## **6. AOB**

**JW**

- F & GP meeting date clashes with Birtley PCC, PCC to change their date as arranged after RWF was agreed.
- JW asked whether having a presence at Bellingham Show would be sensible given the RWF has less money in the fund this year due to commitments already agreed with B4RN, NTY and the schools, pre-schools and nurseries. Potential applicants could be disappointed as less money available for projects. Directors agreed not to have a promotional stall, but to ensure Ray Wind Fund banners are displayed on the showground.
- Discussion regarding the limited funds for the year took place. People within the AoB should remember that broadband was one of the priorities for the Funds when it was first established, and the pledged grant for the next three years will connect many households and businesses who have not had access to superfast broadband at all in their home life, businesses, schooling and everything else that is online today.

Closed 7.40pm